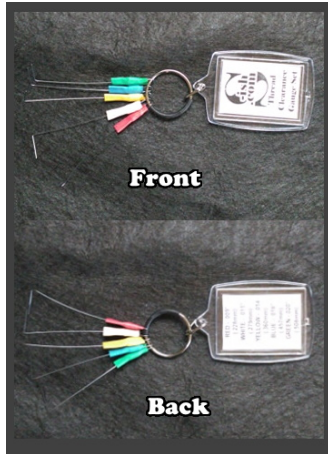


S-ish.com Thread Clearance Gauge Set

Instructions for Use



Thanks for purchasing the S-ish.com thread clearance gauge set. These are a set of wire feeler gauges for setting thread clearances and other close tolerance settings on sewing machines in a range from .009"-.020".

Proper thread clearance is very important in all sewing machines no matter the make or model and proper adjustment makes the machines form a stitch better as well as often the machine will run quieter and more smoothly since the areas the stitch is formed in is running tighter than it is with improper adjustments.

Many people use automotive feeler gauges to adjust their machines and that is fine as long as you have the space to get accurate readings and many of the automotive wire gauges are simple not the proper sizes needed and usually not of sufficient length to get accurate readings. Hence many years ago Singer (SIMANCO) provided their techs with a set of wire gauges that were specifically made for the needle trades that they have since discontinued.

This is the reason that we have recreated the S-ish.com (S(inger)-ish.com) set of wire feeler gauges.

Many people want me to post exactly how to use these gauges but the best thing you can do is dig into your service manuals and check the section on thread clearances and see what your clearances should be and then check to what they actually are and then adjust them as necessary.

TO ADJUST THE THREAD CLEARANCE OF THE SHUTTLE
Using Narrow Feeler Gauge Serial 187928
To check the thread clearance of the shuttle, pull out the front bed side and turn the balance wheel over toward you until the shuttle G, Fig. 18, is at the end of its stroke away from the operator. Then using narrow feeler gauge H, Fig. 18 (with leaves .015 and .018 inch thick), check thread clearance of shuttle at the four points shown in Figs. 18, 19, 20, 21.

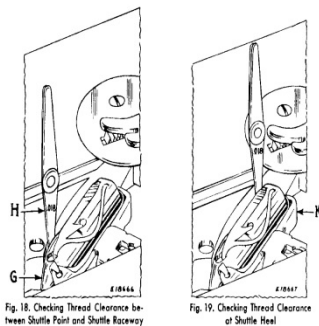


Figure 1

As you see in Figure 1 on the Singer 127/128 series of Vibrating Shuttle machine thread clearances are .015" on the point to shuttle race and .018" on the shuttle heel. These can be reached with standard automotive feeler gauges but you will get a far more accurate reading with wire gauges.

On all of the 66 class machines there are several areas (Figure 3) that are adjustable with the wire feeler gauges as well as points between the hook and the BC retainer (Figure 2) that is not necessarily a point of thread clearance as well as others. If you do not have a service manual check with us on SMRG to see if we have one for your machine. I cannot stress enough that it is incumbent on you to learn these specific measurements and that once you begin understanding how they relate to stitch formation. Once you do you will begin to utilize similar techniques of measuring on other brands of machines and not just Singers.

Also be sure to familiarize yourself with what the clearance tolerances for the bobbin case retainers and any other structures in the hook area are many will fall into the range of these gauges even if they do not directly affect thread clearance.

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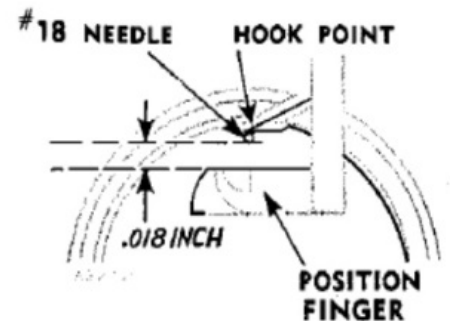


Fig. 299. Correct Position of Hook (Viewed from Above)

Figure 2

Using narrow feeler gauge, Serial No. 187928, check these thread clearances —

At **A2**, Fig. 280, between bobbin case cushion spring and heel of bobbin case, there should be a clearance of .012 to .014 inch.

At **B2** on other side of spring, between spring and bracket — clearance should be .012 to .014 inch.

At **C2**, between hook race and underside of spring — clearance should be .016 to .018 inch.

Clearance between rear corner of bobbin case and top of spring, shown at **D2**, Fig. 276 should be approximately 3/64 inch. This distance can be checked with a simple scale rule.

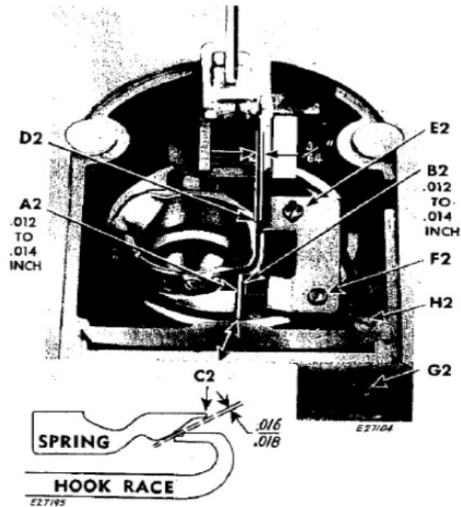


Fig. 276. Thread Clearances

Figure 3

So these are just a couple of the examples where and how you can utilize the S-ish.com Thread Clearance Gauge Sets to make a machine form a better stitch but as you look through manuals you will see that almost every standard lockstitch and chain-stitch machine relies to some degree that thread pass freely and that the amount of clearance directly affects the quality of that stitch.



All too often on the Futura series of machine (Figure 4) that have a wind in the case bobbin people think they have a lower tension issue when in fact they have a thread clearance issue causing the bobbin case to lift and make the bobbin stop spooling thread off freely.

This is not to mention that excessive thread clearance on modern machines will not only produce more uneven wear on the plastic cases it puts them in jeopardy of jumping out of the retaining brackets, spinning around and being pierced by a needle often resulting that a very expensive case needs to be replaced well before the end of its service life.

That is about all I can cover in this short set of instructions. Be sure to do your research and get a manual for at least your first few machines until you get the basics down and if you cannot find a free service manual check with us on SMRG to see if we have one. Also experiment with other machines, these gauges will work with all types including Sergers and Coverstitchers.

HAPPY SEWING

Sewing Machine Resource Group (SMRG):

[facebook.com/groups/SMRG1/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/SMRG1/)

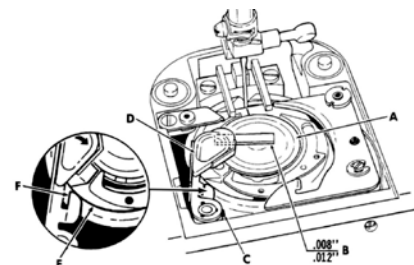


Figure 4